

## INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

---

**Month: August 2022**

**Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 27**

**Project Region: Edmonton and  
Yellowhead**

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:  
KP 1–377**

### **Indigenous Monitors on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project – Overview**

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project (the Project or TMEP) is retaining Indigenous Monitors as integrated members of its construction Environmental Inspection team. Indigenous Monitors work with Environmental Inspectors to monitor compliance with mitigation measures to minimize impacts to traditional resource use and cultural/heritage sites during construction. Indigenous Monitors have a strategic role in providing traditional knowledge directly and pragmatically to construction oversight practices and bring an Indigenous lens to daily environmental inspection activities.

This Overview Report provides highlights of the Indigenous Monitors' day-to-day work and key mitigation measures observed by the Monitors related to Project construction in the Edmonton and Yellowhead Regions. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Indigenous Monitor activity to Indigenous groups.

During this reporting period, key activities in the Edmonton and Yellowhead Regions involving Indigenous Monitors included monitoring wildlife mitigations, pump station, right-of-way reclamation, Edmonton Terminal, construction site housekeeping, Traditional Land Use (TLU) sites, topsoil removal, grading and stream bed restoration. Pipeline construction on Spread 1 is mechanically complete; some final Project activities on the Spread 1 right-of-way are being completed intermittently. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for August 2022, which reports environmental events and deficiencies in Tables 4 and 5 respectively, is found [here](#).

The Project has a process for sharing information related to potential TLU and Heritage Resource chance finds during construction. The [Protecting TLU and Cultural Heritage Resources Fact Sheet \(link here\)](#) provides an overview of the chance find communication process. Applicable Indigenous groups are notified and engaged directly on potential chance finds.

**For more information: email [info@transmountain.com](mailto:info@transmountain.com) or call 1.866.514.6700.**

## Pump Station Inspection

A joint environmental inspection was conducted by an Environmental Inspector and an Indigenous Monitors at the Gainford Pump Station. The Facilities Environmental Protection Plan was reviewed and referenced during the inspection to ensure compliance measures were being followed.

The inspection included observing the sites' waste management procedures and use of secondary containment. The pump station is in the final stages of construction, with very little activity taking place. The primary focus of the inspection was housekeeping. No environmental concerns were found.



Hydrocarbon retention pond complete at Gainford Pump Station KP 116.



Good housekeeping at Gainford Pump Station KP 116.

## Right-of-Way Reclamation

Topsoil restoration is an important step in returning disturbed sites to a stable condition by preparing the site for further reclamation activities, such as revegetation. Subsoil is de-compacted to alleviate compaction caused by construction activities before topsoil replacement. Acceptable topsoil depths are confirmed by an Environmental Inspector (EI) during final cleanup. Multiple measurements are taken of topsoil replacement quality and depth. After the contractor has properly prepared the ground for seed, it is seeded with the approved mix that reflects the vegetation profile from pre-disturbance.

Indigenous Monitors were on-site inspecting various reclamation activities, including discing for soil decompaction, topsoil replacement and seeding. Indigenous Monitors were engaged in conversations with crews and EIs in all stages of reclamation. They discussed the need to postpone topsoil replacement in wet or windy conditions to prevent damage to soil structure or erosion of topsoil. No deficiencies were found.



Topsoil replacement at KP 133.



Seeded area KP 255.

## Edmonton Terminal Inspection

A joint inspection was conducted by the Environmental Inspector and Indigenous Monitor at Edmonton Terminal. Observations included construction of the containment wall, ongoing coating of the new tanks and the construction of the line 2 pump building.

The containment wall construction continues with installation going as planned. Piles for the containment wall continue to be installed in the tank area. Sandblasting material is collected and recycled. Line 2 pump building construction continues and is scheduled to be completed by year-end. Waste management was inspected as well as secondary containment for equipment and fuel storage tanks. Spill kits and spill response procedures were also reviewed in the field. Key compliance measures on the construction permit were reviewed and mitigations were in place. No deficiencies were noted.



Vapour recovery unit installed on Tank 1 at Edmonton Terminal.



Waste segregation labelled and executed properly at Edmonton Terminal.

## Site Housekeeping

Indigenous Monitors regularly conduct inspections of the various construction areas for general housekeeping measures. This includes observing and documenting waste storage management; fuel storage containment and proper use of vehicle and equipment spill kits. Waste or construction materials not properly disposed of or secured are reported to the Environmental Inspectors and respective site services crew for maintenance. The recycling bins are also inspected to make sure waste is properly segregated into appropriate categories.

At a KP 49 horizontal directional drill site, Indigenous Monitors confirmed signage is up to date, required flagging and staking is present, housekeeping is compliant, spill kits are present and stocked, secondary containment is in use, and washrooms are clean and appropriately maintained. No deficiencies were identified.



Organized site, clear walking paths at KP 49.



Good housekeeping at KP 49.

## Traditional Land Use Sites

Resource-Specific Mitigation Tables and Environmental Alignment Sheets are used to illustrate locations of and summarize specified mitigation for previously identified historical resources and TLU areas. Such locations have been identified via TLU studies conducted by Indigenous groups and archaeology baseline assessments conducted in relation to the Project over many years.

Indigenous Monitors inspected previously identified TLU sites along the right-of-way on Spread 2 to confirm mitigation measures remain in place included signage, staking and flagging.

Indigenous Monitors inspect TLU sites with a focus on sites near active construction to ensure mitigation measures are in place to protect Heritage Resources. Sites inspected include but are not limited to TLU-2, TLU-5 and TLU-25.

An Indigenous Monitor also performed an inspection on a plant gathering site. The Indigenous Monitor confirmed no chemicals have been sprayed in the TLU site, construction is confined to approved work boundaries and that boundary signage is in place. Inspected mitigation measures remained in compliance. No cultural or environmental concerns were identified.



Signage in place at TLU-2



Signage in place at TLU-5 .



Signage in place at TLU-25.

## Topsoil Removal and Grading

When removing soil in construction areas, required mitigation includes segregation of topsoil from root zone material, proper storage to reduce potential erosion, effective labelling and signage, and inspection of soil piles to ensure they are within the survey limits of the right-of-way and no soil has gone outside these limits.

At locations between KP 51 and 74, the Indigenous Monitors were involved in monitoring and inspecting soil salvage mitigations. They confirmed topsoil was separated and labelled and that piles remained inside the construction footprint. It was noted that wildlife breaks were left in soil piles where required. The Indigenous Monitors also



Topsoil strip and grading crew working at KP 77



Strip and grade at KP 68

inspected the construction areas before and after soil stripping to identify any potential archaeological chance finds. None were identified.

### **Stream Bed Restoration**

Once in-stream work is complete, restoration of the riparian zone is conducted, including recontouring watercourse beds and banks to pre-construction conditions. Additional work includes replacing site-specific features important for fish or other aquatic organisms, and replacing salvaged topsoil, surface soils and salvaged root zone material like root balls (i.e., roots of shrubs and trees), in proper sequence over all portions of the construction site where soil cover was stripped.

Indigenous Monitors regularly monitor completed watercourse crossings. Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) measures are monitored; these measures mitigate erosion and sediment transport from construction sites to downstream areas and watercourses. On-site ESC mitigations may include sediment fences, swales, wattles, rock armouring, erosion control blankets and hydroseeding, as well as water drainage control measures.

Indigenous Monitors inspected the effectiveness of restorations completed and observed site housekeeping efforts, recontour of the bank, transplant areas including erosion control blanket, willow stakes in riparian zones, re-seeding in previously excavated and backfilled areas and rock armouring and stream bed material replacement. These mitigations were installed and working as planned. No deficiencies were identified.



Stream bank restoration at AB-60 KP 125.



Stream bank restoration at AB-202 KP 337.



Stream bank restoration at AB-153 KP 290.



Stream bank restoration at AB-178 KP 317.

## Indigenous Monitor Request Dashboard

Indigenous Monitors are provided with daily on-site field support from Environmental Inspectors and office support from Indigenous Monitor Coordinators. Indigenous Monitors can also make specific support requests or submit questions through their daily report. Examples include but are not limited to requests for Project reports (beyond any reports or documents requested and shared through day-to-day team activity on-site), input from an environmental resource specialist or on-site support from an Elder or other cultural knowledge holder. Requests and their completion status are noted below.


Status	Rolling Total and Type of Requests				
	Project Reports/Documents	Environmental Resource Specialists	Elder/Cultural Knowledge Holder	Other	Total
Total	6	1	5	-	12
Fulfilled	6	1	5	-	12
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

This report has been reviewed by the active Indigenous Monitor(s)

**CONTACT US:**  
Trans Mountain

 [info@transmountain.com](mailto:info@transmountain.com)  
 1.866.514.6700  
 [transmountain.com](http://transmountain.com)

  @TransMtn  
 [youtube.com/transmntn](https://www.youtube.com/transmntn)


 PO Box 81018  
Burnaby, BC V5H 3B0



**TRANSMOUNTAIN**